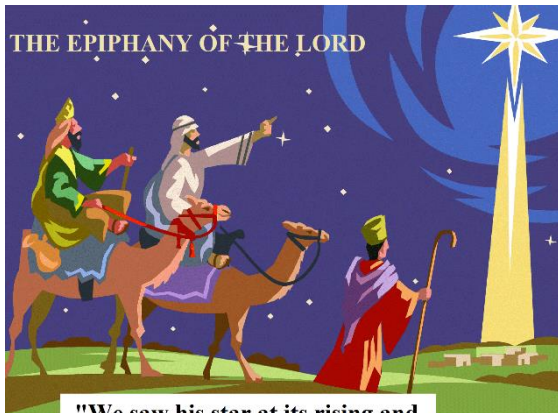


The Epiphany of the Lord

(Moved solemnity)

Children's liturgy activity January 3rd , 2021



"We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage."
- Matthew 2:2

VERSE OF THE WEEK



Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

In the gospel today, we see the Magi from the east arriving in Jerusalem seeking the new-born king. Using their knowledge and wisdom and with all that they had, they recognized the Star rising during the time of the birth of Messiah and followed the star to reach Jesus to do him homage. On their way, they were called by King Herod, the king of Jerusalem, who was very much troubled regarding the birth of the new-born king.

First, Herod called all the chief Priests and the scribes of the people to inquire about Christ's birth. They confirmed it to him through what was written by the prophet Micah. Then he called the Magi secretly to make sure regarding the time of the appearance of the star and sent them to Bethlehem. He said "Go and search diligently for the child. When you have found him, bring me word, that I too may go and do him homage." But Herod was planning secretly to find the place of birth of Jesus, so that he can destroy him.

The Magi continued their journey back on right track led by the star. They never left the way of star anymore until it stopped over the place where the child was born. They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They adored, worshiped the lord and did him homage. They opened all their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. The Magi had a dream from the lord warning them not to return to Herod, so they took a different way to return to their own country.

Magi are wise men who studied about stars and who knew and trusted in the prophecies regarding the birth of the saviour. They used their knowledge and wisdom to seek and find the saviour. They adored and worshiped him and used their precious treasures to pay homage to him. Through their offering of Gold, they regarded Jesus as king. By offering frankincense, they honoured his divinity, and by offering myrrh, they honoured Jesus' passion, death and suffering in plan of salvation. When they got distracted from their way to Jesus by King Herod, they got back to the right track soon and responded to the warnings from God to avoid Herod who could destroy Jesus.

Like the Magi, each of us are in the journey to know Jesus and reach Jesus. The lord has provided us with a great helper in this journey, the Holy Spirit, who reveals Jesus to us. Let everything that we are being provided in this world be like the star which make way for us to know Jesus and reach Him. Let everything reveal the presence of Jesus and his purpose for each of us through His Holy Spirit, leading us to adore and worship him.

The holy spirit prompt us showing us light to the true light Jesus through, the living word, life of saints, our parents, a person, or a blessing or an incident or anything of the nature to think of Jesus and guiding to Jesus. with all that we have let us pay homage and honour, adore, and worship our lord proclaiming his kingship, divinity and his passion for the salvation of souls. Let our ways of living proclaim the truth of Jesus to others and lead them to Jesus, the only way of salvation. But let us by the wisdom of God, recognize and be aware of the Herod's waiting to trap and misguide us in our journey to Jesus, intending to destroy Jesus in us. Let our life be led by Holy spirit to reach Jesus to adore and worship him in His fullness but not getting deceived by Herod's of this world.

Board Game.

Help the Magi to avoid Herod and reach 'JESUS'.

Game: Three players take turns to play this game. Start the game when the dice throw 1 or 6. Move the counters according to the numbers shown when dice is thrown. You get a climb up in the star square but a climb down in a Herod square. The player who reaches Jesus first wins.

63 62 61 60 59 58 57

FINISH

49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56

48 47 46 45 44 43 42 41

33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40

32 31 30 29 28 27 26 25

17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24

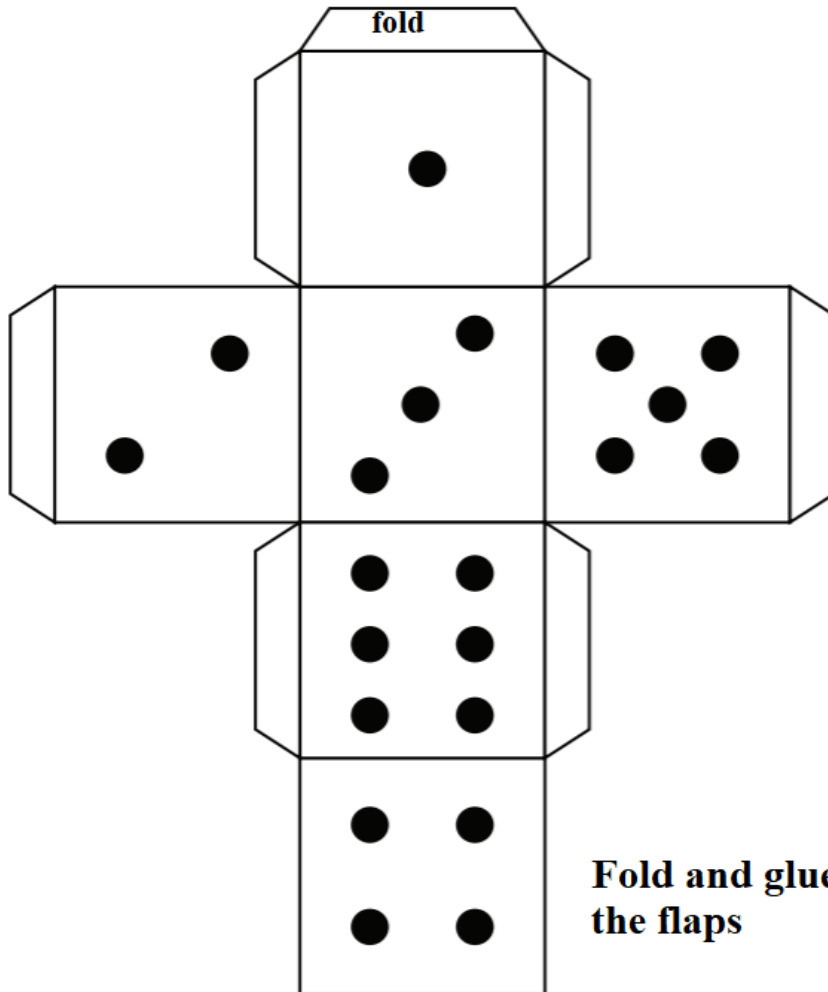
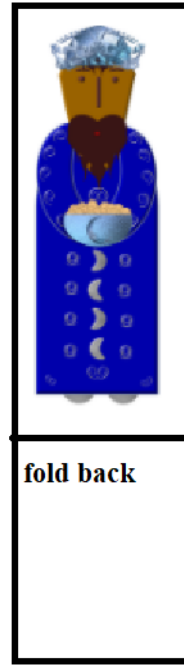
16 15 14 13 12 11 10 9

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

START

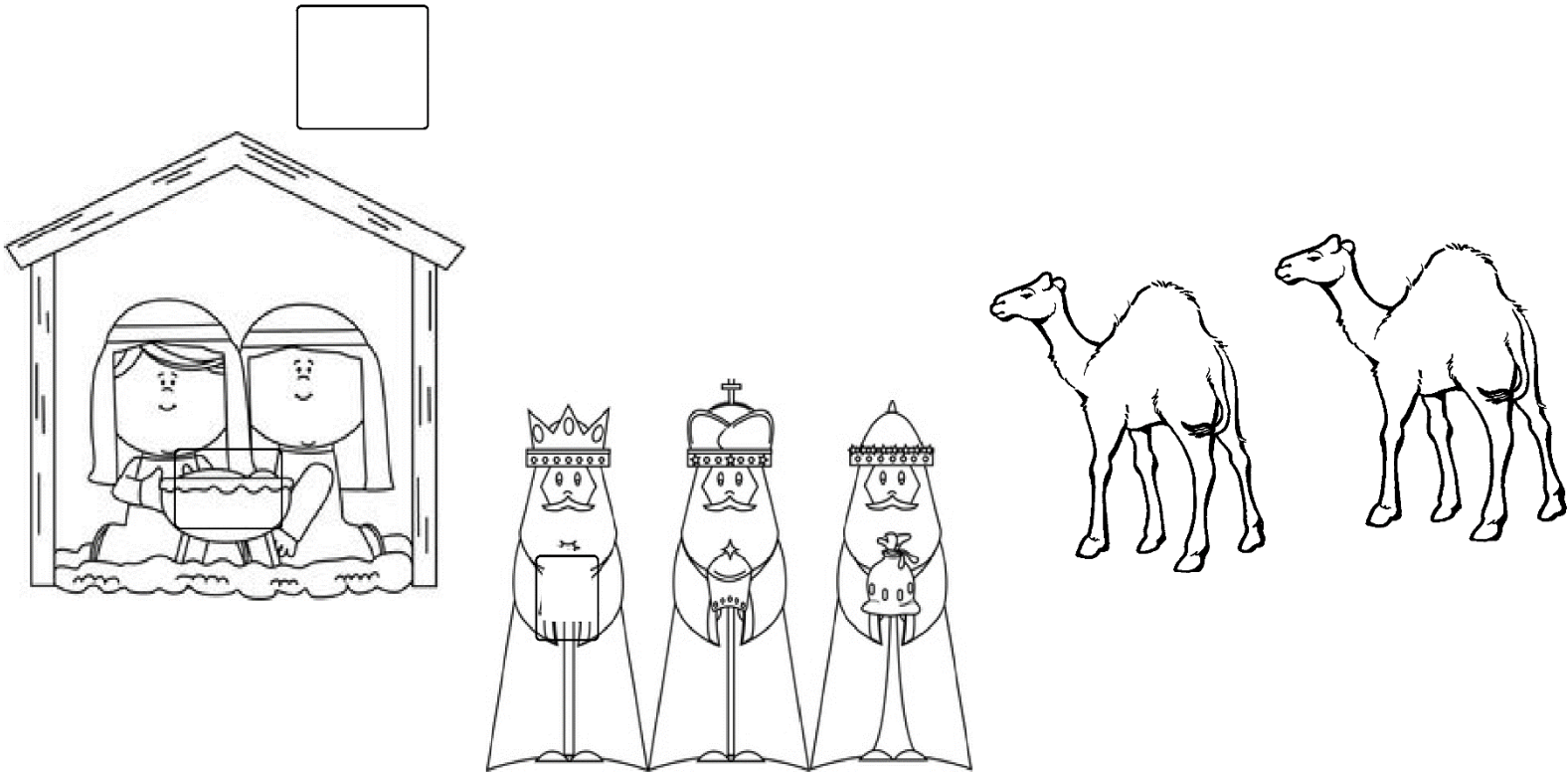
Cut out the game template and stick on a hard board.

Cut out and fold along the line for the three counters to stand erect.



The dice template.
Cut out and make.

Complete the picture by drawing the missing bits in the given blank boxes.
Colour it.



FIND THE WORD.

1. King at the time of the birth of Jesus. — E — 0 —
2. What stopped over the place where the child was born. — T — —
3. They arrived from the east to pay homage to Jesus. — — G I
4. One of the gifts offered to Jesus. — — A — K — N — EN — E
5. Place of Birth of Jesus. — e — — | — — e —



Let us Pray,

Dear Lord, thank you for giving us Jesus our savior. Fill us with the Holy Spirit to guide us to Jesus, to proclaim Jesus by our life and lead others to Jesus, the salvation and eternal life. Fill us with your wisdom and deliver us from the Herod's of this world waiting to trap and destroy Jesus in us. In all things, help us to glorify and give thanks to you lord, as we await in hope for His second coming to adore and worship Him in fullness. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.